

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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25X1

COUNTRY Poland
SUBJECT Repatriation of Germans

REPORT

DATE DISTR. 23 March 1954

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE OF INFO.

REQUIREMENT NO. RD

25X1

PLACE ACQUIRED

REFERENCES

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1. During the early post-war period, the Polish authorities proudly announced that most of the Germans in Poland had fled westward with the retreating armies of Hitler. In 1949 and 1950 the official propaganda made mention of Polish-German friendship for the first time and the Polish people heard that only some German specialists and war criminals still remained in Poland. The Polish people have now learned, however, that there are over 150,000 Germans still residing in Poland who are demanding repatriation to East Germany. The Polish Communists have tried to urge these Germans to remain in Poland with such inducements as better wages and better lodgings and have also urged these Germans, without success, to change their German sounding names to Polish and even Russian names.

2. The negotiations carried on between the East German and Polish governments to remove these Germans from Poland have finally culminated in an agreement. The Poles have set up a rallying camp for Germans desiring repatriation in Sluzewiec (south of Warsaw) and the East German government has set up a similar camp in Fuerstenwalde. Furthermore, the Polish authorities secretly ordered all Germans residing in Poland who desire to be sent to East Germany to complete a form on which they were to indicate the names of the members of their families, etc., and send these forms to the provincial offices (urzed wojewodzki). These forms indicated that about 150,000 Germans wanted to be repatriated.

3. [redacted] number of Germans desiring repatriation [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] figures for the provinces 25X1
located along the Polish seacoast: over 6,000 in Szczecin (Stettin) voivodship, over 15,000 in Koszalin (Koslin) voivodship, over 1,000 in Gdansk (Danzig) voivodship, and over 30,000 in Olsztyn (Allenstein) voivodship. The large number of Germans desiring repatriation from the provinces of Olsztyn and Koszalin is, [redacted] very significant and characteristic. Most of the Germans residing in the Polish provinces along the seacoast have been employed by the Soviets in the various enterprises, consisting mainly of military enterprises, which have been in their hands since the end of the war. [redacted] 25X1

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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[redacted] the Soviets began leaving the province of Koszalin and removing their troops and some military installations to other parts of Poland, mainly to the area of Silesia and the province of Olsztyn. The Germans in the province of Koszalin were, therefore, "set free" from their employment and they used this opportunity to ask for repatriation. In the province of Olsztyn, on the other hand, where the Soviets are arriving, the Germans do not want to be employed in Soviet enterprises so they are making an all-out effort to be sent to Germany.

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4. The Germans residing in the Soviet Baltic republics and in the Soviet part of East Prussia will probably be removed also.

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